

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 16 public bills, H.R. 1342–1357; and 6 resolutions, H.J. Res. 72, H. Con. Res. 63, and H. Res. 114, 115, 118, and 119, were introduced.

Pages H1610–11

Reports Filed: Reports were filed as follows:

H.R. 607, to amend the Truth in Lending Act to require notice of cancellation rights with respect to private mortgage insurance which is required by a creditor as a condition for entering into a residential mortgage transaction, amended (H. Rept. 105–55);

H. Res. 116, providing for consideration of H.R. 400, to amend title 35, United States Code, with respect to patents (H. Rept. 105–56); and

H. Res. 117, providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules (H. Rept. 105–57).

Page H1610

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he designated Representative LaTourette to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H1545

Committee Election: The House agreed to H. Res. 114, electing Representatives Manzullo, Foley, and Jones to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

Page H1545

Motions to Suspend the Rules: The House agreed to H. Res. 112, the rule providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules on Wednesday, April 16. Earlier, agreed to order the previous question by a yea-and-nay vote of 223 yeas to 199 nays, Roll No. 79.

Pages H1549–57

Suspensions: The House voted to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Private Mortgage Insurance: H.R. 607, amended, to amend the Truth in Lending Act to require notice of cancellation rights with respect to private mortgage insurance which is required by a creditor as a condition for entering into a residential mortgage transaction (agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 421 yeas to 7 nays, Roll No. 80). Agreed to amend the title;

Pages H1557–66, H1581–82

Veterans Benefits Decisions: H.R. 1090, to amend title 38, United States Code, to allow revision of veterans benefits decisions based on clear and unmistakable error;

Pages H1566–68

Enhanced Use Leases: H.R. 1092, to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into enhanced-use leases for Department of Veterans Affairs

property, to rename the United States Court of Veterans Appeals and the National Cemetery System;

Pages H1568–71

Federal Agency Travel and Transportation Reform: H.R. 930, amended, to require Federal employees to use Federal travel charge cards for all payments of expenses of official Government travel, to amend title 31, United States Code, to establish requirements for prepayment audits of Federal agency transportation expenses, to authorize reimbursement of Federal agency employees for taxes incurred on travel or transportation reimbursements, and to authorize test programs for the payment of Federal employee travel expenses and relocation expenses;

Pages H1571–75

Donation of Law Enforcement Canines: H.R. 173, amended, to amend the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 to authorize donation of surplus Federal law enforcement canines to their handlers. Agreed to amend the title;

Pages H1575–76

Honoring Jackie Robinson: H. Con. Res. 61, honoring the lifetime achievements of Jackie Robinson (agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 427 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 81); and

Pages H1576–80, H1582

Dos Palos, California: H.R. 111, amended, to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to convey a parcel of unused agricultural land in Dos Palos, California, to the Dos Palos Ag Boosters for use as a farm school. Agreed to amend the title.

Pages H1580–81

Bipartisan Task Force on Reform of the Ethics Process: Agreed by unanimous consent that the order of the House of February 12, 1997 be extended through April 17, 1997. On February 12, in furtherance of the understanding concerning the establishment of the ethics task force, it was made in order that during the period beginning immediately and ending on April 11, 1997: (1) the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct may not receive, renew, initiate, or investigate a complaint against the official conduct of a member, officer, or employee of the House; (2) the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct may issue advisory opinions and perform other non-investigative functions; and (3) a resolution addressing the official conduct of a member, officer, or employee of the House that is proposed to be offered from the floor by a member other than the Majority Leader or the Minority Leader as a question of the privileges of the House shall

once noticed pursuant to clause 2(a)(1) of rule IX, have precedence of all other questions except motions to adjourn only at a time or place designated by the chair in the legislative schedule within two legislative days after April 11, 1997. **Page H1599**

Committee Election: The House agreed to H. Res. 118, electing Representative Torres to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services. **Page H1603**

Amendments: Amendments ordered printed pursuant to the rule appear on pages H1612–19.

Senate Messages: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H1545.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H1556–57, H1581–82, and H1582. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: Met at 11:00 a.m. and adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Committee Meetings

COMMODITY EXCHANGE ACT AMENDMENTS

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Risk Management and Specialty Crops continued hearings on reform of the Commodity Exchange Act and provisions of H.R. 467, Commodity Exchange Act Amendments of 1997. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Hearings continue tomorrow.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FDA, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Federal Drug Administration, and Related Agencies approved for full Committee action Supplemental Appropriations for Fiscal Year 1997.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, STATE AND JUDICIARY APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State and the Judiciary held a hearing on the SBA, the Economic Development Administration, the Minority Business Development Agency, the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency and the EEOC. Testimony was heard from Aida Alvarez, Administrator, SBA; and the following officials of the Department of Commerce, Phillip A. Singerman, Assistant Secretary, Economic Development Administration; and Paul R. Weber, Assistant Director, Minority Business Development Agency; John D. Holum, Director, U.S. Arms Control and Disar-

mament Agency; and Gilbert F. Casellas, Chairman, EEOC.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development approved for full Committee action Supplemental Appropriations for Fiscal Year 1997.

INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior concluded appropriation hearings. Testimony was heard from Members of Congress.

LABOR–HHS–EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education continued appropriation hearings. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

NATIONAL SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on National Security approved for full Committee action Supplemental Appropriations for Fiscal Year 1997.

The Subcommittee also held a hearing on Ballistic Missile Defense. Testimony was heard from Gen. Lester Lyles, USA, Director, Ballistic Missile Defense Organization, Department of Defense.

VA–HUD–INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on VA, HUD and Independent Agencies approved for full Committee action Supplemental Appropriations for Fiscal Year 1997.

The Subcommittee also concluded hearings on the EPA. Testimony was heard from Carol M. Browner, Administrator, EPA.

HOUSING OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY ACT

Committee on Banking and Financial Services: Continued markup of H.R. 2, Housing Opportunity and Responsibility Act of 1997.

Will continue tomorrow.

LEAKING UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK TRUST FUND AMENDMENTS ACT

Committee on Commerce: Ordered reported H.R. 688, Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund Amendments of 1997.

COMMON CENTS STOCK PRICING ACT

Committee on Commerce: Subcommittee on Finance and Hazardous Materials concluded hearings on H.R. 1053, the Common Cents Stock Pricing Act of